



2742

10205.020  
PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: : Art Unit: 2742  
Thomasson : Examiner:  
Serial No.: 09/476,468 : Date: March 21, 2000  
Filed: December 30, 1999 :  
For: BAND-BY-BAND FULL DUPLEX COMMUNICATION

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## SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

It is respectfully requested that the art listed below be considered in the examination of the subject application and made of record therein. A copy of the art listed below is enclosed.

4,991,167..... discloses (FIG. 2) separate  
Petri et al. attenuation devices (DGI.1 ...  
February 5, 1991 DGI.n) in each sub-band; also  
discloses distinguishing between  
background noise and voice -  
column 5, lines 1-3;

The Petri et al. patent discloses adjusting the amplitudes of the signals in proportion to their amplitudes; i.e. louder signals are attenuated less. Silence produces full attenuation. It is also disclosed that intermediate values cause the sum of the signals to equal a fixed maximum; column 5, lines 43-46. It is respectfully submitted that this is not the same as allocating bands with a multiplexer wherein a signal is either connected or it is not.

The background noise is factored into determining voice level in an undisclosed manner; column 5, lines 22-25. In applicant's invention, claims 11 and 12, the output from the band containing the background noise is attenuated.

It is respectfully submitted that the invention as described and claimed is not disclosed or suggested by the prior art listed above.

Respectfully submitted,



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